

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 14704 291755Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4622
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

S E C R E T GENEVA 14704

EXDIS USCTB

PASS TO DOE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PARM US UK UR
SUBJECT: CTB NEGOTIATIONS: UK VIEWS ON PNE DISCUSSIONS

CTB MESSAGE NO. 315

1. IN THE COURSE OF CONVERSATIONS WITH THE BRITISH IN PREPARATION FOR THE START OF THE PRESENT ROUND, UK REP AMB EDMONDS REFERRED TO THE SOVIET DESIRE FOR AN AGREED UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE THREE DELEGATIONS REGARDING THE DATE FOR BEGINNING PNE DISCUSSIONS AFTER ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE TREATY. HE NOTED THAT THE US AND UK HAD ACHIEVED ALL OF THEIR OBJECTIVES IN NEGOTIATING THE TEXT OF THE PROTOCOL. IN ORDER TO AVOID GIVING THE SOVIETS A PRETEXT FOR REOPENING THE AGREEMENT ON THE PNE PROTOCOL, THE UK BELIEVED THAT WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH THE SOVIET REQUEST THAT WE SET SOME DATE FOR COMMENCEMENT OF THE PNE DISCUSSIONS. THE BRITISH WERE PREPARED TO SAY THAT THESE DISCUSSIONS WOULD BEGIN WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF
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THE TREATY.

2. US REP JOHNSON AND NEIDLE EXPLAINED THAT WE HAD NOT YET PREPARED A RESPONSE TO THE SOVIET REQUEST. JOHNSON AGREED THAT THE NEGOTIATED TEXT OF THE PNE PROTOCOL WAS A VERY FAVORABLE OUTCOME FROM OUR STANDPOINT. HE SAID THAT THE BRITISH APPROACH SEEMED REASONABLE TO HIM AND

HE DID NOT THINK IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR US TO GO
ALONG WITH SOME TARGET DATE FOR STARTING THE PNE DIS-
CUSSIONS.

3. ON THE FORM OF AGREEMENT ON STARTING DATE, BIRCH (UK)
THOUGHT THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD PROBABLY NOT INSIST ON A
FORMAL AGREED UNDERSTANDING BUT WOULD LIKELY BE SATIS-
FIED BY SOME FORM OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION FROM THE UK
AND US. JOHNSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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